

REMARKS

Claims 2-3 and 5 have been amended. Claims 1-15 are pending in the application.

Objection to the Abstract

The Examiner objected to the Abstract, which was accordingly amended based on the Examiner's comments and including minor changes submitted by the Applicants.

Objection to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 2-3, 5 and 7. Accordingly, claims 2-3, 5 and 7 were amended based on the Examiner's comments and including minor changes submitted by the Applicants.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, the Abstract and claims 2-3, 5 and 7 have been amended. Claims 1-15 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Feb. 2, 2006

By: 
H. J. Staas
Registration No. 22,010

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501